COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

RATE ADJUSTMENT OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

CASE NO. 8356

ORDER

On September 23, 1981, the Western Union Telegraph Company ("Western Union") filed a notice with the Commission requesting to increase its rates charged for Telex and Teletypewriter Exchange ("TWX") services to be effective on and after November 7, 1981. Western Union stated that the proposed increases, which were based on a test year ending December 31, 1980, would increase annual intrastate revenues by approximately \$2,000 and would serve to improve the intrastate return on net investment to 7.1 percent.

Western Union stated in its application that the proposed rates had been approved by the Federal Communications Commission and are presently being charged in its interstate operations. The increase in Kentucky and other state jurisdictions is being sought to conform to the interstate rates to improve its overall financial condition.

The Commission is of the opinion that the present rates in Kentucky are inadequate to provide a reasonable

return on Western Union's investment in its Kentucky intrastate operations. The Commission is, moreover, of the opinion that a hearing in this matter is unnecessary and would ultimately result in increased cost to the ratepayer.

SUMMARY

Therefore, based on the evidence of record and being advised, the Commission finds that:

- 1. The rates prescribed and set forth in Appendix A, attached hereto and made a part hereof, should produce an increase in gross annual revenues of approximately \$2,000 and are the fair, just and reasonable rates to be charged for Telex and TWX service.
- 2. A hearing in this matter is not in the best interest of the public and should not be required.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the rates prescribed and set forth in Appendix A, attached hereto and made a part hereof, are the fair, just and reasonable rates for the Western Union Telegraph Company to charge for Telex and TWX service on and after November 7, 1981.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Western Union Telegraph Company shall file with this Commission, within 30 days of the date of this Order, its tariff sheets setting forth the rates approved herein.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of October, 1981.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Kathewa Randall

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 8356 DATED OCTOBER 29, 1981

The following rates and charges are prescribed for the customers served by the Western Union Telegraph Company. All other rates and charges not specifically mentioned herein shall remain the same as those in effect under authority of the Commission prior to the date of this Order.

Telex Service

Rates

The total number of Telex usage pulses recorded during the monthly billing period for each station is charged at the rate of 3.861 cents per Telex pulse.

Teletypewriter Exchange Service

Rates

<u>Usage charge</u>: For calls placed between points in this state a usage charge of 43 cents per minute or fraction thereof applies.